

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (Original) A planer comprising:
 - a shoe, the shoe defining an aperture;
 - a body mounted on the shoe; the body defining an exhaust aperture and including a wall, the wall defining a recess;
 - a cutting drum rotatably mounted within the recess, the drum having a periphery and a portion of the periphery of the cutting drum projects through the aperture in the shoe;
 - a motor mounted within the body to rotatingly drive the cutting drum;
 - a cutting blade mounted on the periphery of the drum and adapted for cutting a work piece when the drum is rotating, the cutting action of the blade causing debris created by the cutting to be ejected from the recess;
 - an airflow generator for producing an airflow within the body;
 - a conduit defined within the body for directing the airflow; the conduit in communication with the exhaust aperture and connected to recess for entraining and removing debris ejected from the recess;
 - a removable deflector insertable through the exhaust aperture and connectable to the conduit for guiding the airflow and entrained debris from within the body to outside of the body;
 - and
 - a flap movable from a first position where the flap closes the exhaust aperture to a second position where the flap does not close the exhaust aperture.

2. (Amended) [A] The planer [as claimed in] of claim 1 [and] wherein the exhaust aperture defines [is] a first exhaust aperture and [the body defines] a second exhaust aperture in communication with the conduit, and in the first flap position the flap closes the first exhaust aperture and in the flap second position the flap does not close the first exhaust aperture, and the flap is further movable to a third position wherein the flap closes the second exhaust aperture, the removable deflector is insertable through one of the first exhaust aperture and the second exhaust aperture.

3. (Amended) [A] The planer [as claimed in] of claim 2 [and] wherein, when the flap is located in the first position and the deflector is removed from the body, the flap directs the airflow and entrained debris through the second exhaust aperture.

4. (Amended) [A] The planer [as claimed in] of claim 1 [and] wherein the flap is pivotally mounted within the body and pivotable between the first position and the second position.

5. (Amended) [A] The planer [as claimed in] of claim 4 [and] wherein the flap extends from [the] a [axis of] pivot axis to a [the] side of the body.

6. (Amended) [A] The planer [as claimed in] of claim 4 [and] wherein the flap is resiliently biased to the first position.

7. (Amended) [A] The planer [as claimed in] of claim [1 and] 6 wherein the means for biasing [means] comprises a spring.

8. (Amended) [A] The planer [as claimed in] of claim 1 [7 and] further comprising a spring, the spring biasing the flap to the first position.

9. (Amended) [A] The planer [as claimed in] of claim 1 [and] wherein a [the] wall in the body also defines an expulsion aperture and the conduit is connected to the recess by the expulsion aperture, and the cutting action of the blade causes debris created by the cutting to be ejected from the recess through the expulsion aperture and into the conduit substantially along a first direction, and the airflow in the conduit is directed within the body to a point below the expulsion aperture and then is directed by the conduit to be blown across the expulsion aperture substantially along a second direction where [and] the first direction of the debris and the second direction of the airflow intersect at an acute angle.

10. (Amended) [A] The planer [as claimed in] of claim 9 [and] wherein a wall defining the expulsion aperture also defines a top portion [to] of the expulsion aperture, said top portion located at a height above the shoe, and the planer body further defines a nozzle located within the conduit at substantially the same height as the top portion of the expulsion aperture, and the conduit divides the airflow into a first part and a second part, the first part of the airflow passes the point below the expulsion aperture before flowing past the expulsion aperture, and the second part of the airflow passes through the nozzle and then exits the nozzle in a substantially third direction, and the third direction of nozzle airflow and the first direction of the debris intersect at an acute angle.

11. (Amended) [A] The planer [as claimed in] of claim 9 [1 and] wherein the conduit directs the airflow over the removable deflector prior to directing the airflow to the point below the expulsion aperture.

12. (Amended) [A] The planer [as claimed in] of claim 11 [and] wherein the removable deflector defines a portion of the conduit where the airflow passes over the deflector.

13. (Amended) [A] The planer [as claimed in] of claim 1 [and] wherein the deflector includes an inner end and an outer end, and the deflector is engageable with [insertable into] the planer body at a downward slope from the outer end to the inner end.